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ABSTRACT

Disclosed are methods for screening that may be used to identify an inhibitor of HCV p7 protein. The methods may include incorporating a biotinylated p7 protein into a membrane to create a p7-containing membrane that has an increased permeability relative to a membrane that does not contain p7 protein. One or more components of the p7-containing membrane may be contacting with a test compound, and the permeability of this p7-containing membrane then may be compared to a p7-containing membrane for which none of its components have been contacted with the test compound. The inhibitor of HCV p7 protein may be identified by observing a decrease in the permeability in the p7-containing membrane.